

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5029

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase transfer and graduation rates at community colleges, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2020

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase transfer and graduation rates at community colleges, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community College
5 Student Success Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Community college student success grant program authorized.
- Sec. 103. Grants to plan community college student success programs.
- Sec. 104. Grants to implement community college student success programs.
- Sec. 105. Evaluations.
- Sec. 106. Outreach and technical assistance.
- Sec. 107. Report to Congress.
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TITLE II—PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS
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- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. Part time community college student success grant program authorized.
- Sec. 203. Grants to plan part time community college student success programs.
- Sec. 204. Grants to implement part time community college student success programs.
- Sec. 205. Evaluations.
- Sec. 206. Outreach and technical assistance.
- Sec. 207. Report to Congress.
- Sec. 208. Supplement, not supplant.
- Sec. 209. Authorization of appropriations.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**—The term “eligible
6 ble institution” means a public 2-year institution of
7 higher education.

8 (2) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The
9 term “institution of higher education” has the
10 meaning given the term under section 101 of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

1 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Education.

3 (4) TRANSFER RATE.—The term “transfer
4 rate”, when used with respect to students enrolled in
5 a program of study at an eligible institution, means
6 that rate at which such students transfer to a 4-year
7 institution of higher education.

8 **TITLE I—COMMUNITY COLLEGE** 9 **STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM**

10 **SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.**

11 In this title:

12 (1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS
13 PROGRAM.—The term “community college student
14 success program” means a program carried out by
15 an eligible institution under which the institution
16 carries out the following:

17 (A) Provides eligible students participating
18 in such program with an amount that covers
19 the cost of tuition and fees that are not covered
20 by any Federal, State, or institutional financial
21 assistance received by the student.

22 (B) Requires eligible students participating
23 in such program to—

24 (i) be enrolled in the eligible institu-
25 tion and carry a full-time academic work-

load during each fall and spring semester
(or equivalent terms) during which the stu-
dent participates in such program;

(ii) if the eligible student is referred
to remedial courses or on academic proba-
tion, meet, on at least a weekly basis or
under an alternate schedule, as determined
by the institution, with a tutor, except that
in the case of an eligible student who is
academically struggling, but who is not re-
ferred to remedial courses or on academic
probation, the student may meet with a
tutor as often as the program advisor for
such student requires or under an alter-
nate schedule, as determined by the insti-
tution;

(iii) meet with a program advisor—

(I) twice each month during the
first semester (or equivalent term) of
participation in such program; and

(II) as directed by the program
advisor in subsequent semesters (or
equivalent terms) under subparagraph
(C)(ii); and

(iv) meet with an on-campus career advisor or participate in a career services event once each semester (or equivalent term) or under an alternate schedule, as determined by the institution.

(C) Provides a program advisor to each eligible student participating in such program who—

(i) provides comprehensive academic and personal advising to the eligible student, including—

(I) the creation and implementation of an academic plan for the student to graduate from a program of study at the eligible institution within 150 percent of the normal time for graduation from such program;

(II) taking steps to enable an eligible student referred to remedial courses to complete college mathematics and English in their first year; and

(III) assisting the eligible student with developing and achieving academic goals, including creating strong

1 transfer pathways that demonstrate
 2 programmatic transfer for students
 3 interested in transferring to a 4-year
 4 institution of higher education;

5 (ii) after the eligible student partici-
 6 pating in such program completes a semes-
 7 ter (or equivalent term), creates for the eli-
 8 gible student a needs-based advising sched-
 9 ule that indicates, based on the eligible
 10 student's academic performance, the fre-
 11 quency with which such eligible student
 12 shall be required to meet with a program
 13 advisor for each subsequent semester (or
 14 equivalent term) of program participation;

15 (iii) has a caseload of not more than
 16 300 eligible students;

17 (iv) tracks the attendance of the eligi-
 18 ble student at the meetings described in
 19 clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv) of subparagraph
 20 (B);

21 (v) monitors the academic progress of
 22 the eligible student; and

23 (vi) provides each eligible student who
 24 meets the requirements of subparagraph
 25 (B), on at least a monthly basis, with fi-

1 nancial incentives support that will en-
2 hance student success.

3 (D) Provides tutoring, academic support,
4 and career services at no cost to eligible stu-
5 dents participating in such program, and may
6 reserve places in select courses for such eligible
7 students in order to create community within
8 cohorts of eligible students.

9 (E) Provides information to eligible stu-
10 dents participating in such program about the
11 eligibility of such students for assistance under
12 the supplemental nutrition assistance program
13 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
14 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and the program of block
15 grants for States for temporary assistance for
16 needy families established under part A of title
17 IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et
18 seq.).

19 (2) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term “eligible
20 student” means a student enrolled at an eligible in-
21 stitution who—

22 (A) on the date such eligible student would
23 begin participation in a community college stu-
24 dent success program at such eligible institu-
25 tion—

1 (i) is enrolled in a program of study
2 leading to an associate degree that pre-
3 pares students to transfer to a 4-year in-
4 stitution of higher education or advance in
5 the labor market;

6 (ii) is carrying a full-time academic
7 workload during each Fall and Spring se-
8 mester (or equivalent terms) during which
9 the student participates in such program;

10 (iii) takes at least 20 degree-applica-
11 ble, non-remedial credits in a given aca-
12 demic year; and

13 (iv) is—

14 (I) a first-time undergraduate
15 student; or

16 (II) a continuing or transfer stu-
17 dent with not more than 15 credits
18 and a minimum grade point average
19 of 2.0 (or its equivalent);

20 (B) if the student is eligible for financial
21 aid under title IV of the Higher Education Act
22 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), has com-
23 pleted the Free Application for Federal Student
24 Aid or other common financial reporting form

1 under section 483(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C.
2 1090(a)); and

3 (C) meets any other requirements estab-
4 lished by the institution.

5 (3) FULL-TIME ACADEMIC WORKLOAD.—The
6 term “full-time academic workload”, when used with
7 respect to a semester or equivalent term, means at
8 least 12 credits (or the equivalent).

9 **SEC. 102. COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS GRANT**
10 **PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

11 From the amounts appropriated under section 109,
12 the Secretary of Education shall establish and carry out
13 the community college student success grant program to
14 award grants under sections 103 and 104, on a competi-
15 tive basis, to eligible institutions to plan and implement
16 community college student success programs designed to
17 increase—

18 (1) the rate at which program participants from
19 a program of study at such eligible institution grad-
20 uate within 150 percent of the normal time for grad-
21 uation;

22 (2) transfer rates of program participants; and

23 (3) the number of credits that a program par-
24 ticipant takes that apply to a degree in the partici-
25 pant’s desired major.

1 **SEC. 103. GRANTS TO PLAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE STU-**
2 **DENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **PLANNING GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—From the
4 amounts appropriated to carry out this section under sec-
5 tion 109 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award plan-
6 ning grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,
7 to eligible institutions to develop plans for community col-
8 lege student success programs.

9 (b) **DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this section
10 shall be for a 1-year period.

11 (c) **PEER REVIEW PROCESS; PRIORITY.**—In award-
12 ing grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-
13 retary shall—

14 (1) carry out a peer review process that—

15 (A) requires that each application sub-
16 mitted under subsection (d) be peer reviewed by
17 a panel of readers composed of individuals se-
18 lected by the Secretary, which shall include—

19 (i) not less than 50 percent of read-
20 ers—

21 (I) who are not employees of the
22 Federal Government; and

23 (II) who have relevant research
24 or practical experience with respect to
25 student support programs designed to
26 increase graduation rates and transfer

1 rates at public 2-year institutions of
2 higher education; and

3 (ii) to the maximum extent prac-
4 ticable, individuals who are members of
5 groups underrepresented in higher edu-
6 cation, including African Americans, His-
7 panics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives,
8 Asian Americans, and Native American
9 Pacific Islanders (including Native Hawai-
10 ians), and individuals with disabilities; and

11 (B) ensures that no individual assigned
12 under subparagraph (A) to review an applica-
13 tion has any conflict of interest with regard to
14 that application that may make the individual
15 unable to impartially conduct such review; and

16 (2) give priority to eligible institutions that are
17 eligible to receive funding under title III or V of the
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1051 et
19 seq.; 20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

20 (d) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a
21 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
22 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
23 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall
24 include—

1 (1) the graduation rate, the number of credits
2 completed (disaggregated by remedial credits and
3 college-level credits for each program of study), and
4 the transfer rate for the most recent academic year
5 for which data are available for eligible students and
6 all students, respectively;

7 (2) an analysis of how implementing a commu-
8 nity college student success program may improve
9 the graduation rate or transfer rate for eligible stu-
10 dents; and

11 (3) a description of the methods the eligible in-
12 stitution has previously used to improve the gradua-
13 tion rate or transfer rate with respect to eligible stu-
14 dents and all students, respectively.

15 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-
16 ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant to
17 develop a plan to implement a community college student
18 success program at the eligible institution.

19 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
20 on which an eligible institution receives a grant under this
21 section, such eligible institution shall submit to the Sec-
22 retary a report that includes—

23 (1) a plan for implementing a community col-
24 lege student success program at the eligible institu-
25 tion, including—

1 (A) the sufficiently ambitious outcome
2 goals for achieving significant improvements in
3 graduation rates and transfer rates for program
4 participants and all students, respectively, be-
5 fore the end of the grant period;

6 (B) the number of such eligible students
7 who will participate in such program in relation
8 to the amount of funding provided, including—

9 (i) how such eligible students will be
10 identified, referred, and selected in cases
11 where the interest in the program is larger
12 than the budget for the program; and

13 (ii) a plan to ensure that economically
14 disadvantaged students receive priority;

15 (C) based on the most recent academic
16 year for which data are available, disaggregated
17 by eligible students and all students—

18 (i) graduation rates;

19 (ii) transfer rates; and

20 (iii) average number of credits earned,
21 including remedial and college-level credits,
22 by associate degree earners;

23 (D) an analysis of the financial needs of el-
24 igible students based on the Free Application
25 for Federal Student Aid;

1 (E) a description of how the eligible insti-
 2 tution will effectively staff a community college
 3 student success program; and

4 (F) a timeline for the implementation of
 5 such program;

6 (2) a budgetary analysis that includes—

7 (A) a description of how the eligible insti-
 8 tution will provide non-Federal funds for such
 9 program under section 104(d); and

10 (B) a description of how the eligible insti-
 11 tution will continue to fund such program after
 12 the end of the grant period for the grant
 13 awarded to the institution under section 104;
 14 and

15 (3) such other information as the Secretary
 16 may require.

17 **SEC. 104. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
 18 **STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

19 (a) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
 21 priated to carry out this section under section 109
 22 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award grants
 23 for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis, to eligi-
 24 ble institutions awarded a grant under section 103

1 to implement community college student success pro-
2 grams.

3 (2) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants under
4 this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall con-
5 sult with the independent evaluator before finalizing
6 which eligible institutions will receive such a grant
7 for such fiscal year.

8 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION.—To be eligible
9 to receive a grant under this section, an eligible institution
10 shall meet the following requirements:

11 (1) The eligible institution was awarded a grant
12 under section 103 at least 1 year before such eligible
13 institution submits an application under subsection
14 (e).

15 (2) The eligible institution submits an applica-
16 tion under subsection (e).

17 (3) The eligible institution demonstrates, on the
18 date of the application described in subsection (e),
19 the availability of non-Federal funding for the
20 matching funds required under subparagraphs (A),
21 (B), and (C) of subsection (d)(1).

22 (c) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this section
23 shall be for a 5-year period.

24 (d) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), an eligible institution awarded a grant
3 under this section shall contribute in cash from non-
4 Federal sources, the following:

5 (A) For the second year of the grant pe-
6 riod, an amount equal to 10 percent of the cost
7 of carrying out the community college student
8 success program at the institution for such
9 year.

10 (B) For each of the third through fifth
11 years of the grant period, an amount equal to
12 20 percent of the cost of carrying out such pro-
13 gram for the applicable year.

14 (2) EXCEPTION.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding para-
16 graph (1), with respect to an exempt institution
17 awarded a grant under this section, for each
18 year of the grant period beginning with the sec-
19 ond year through the fifth year, the Secretary
20 shall not require the institution to make a cash
21 contribution from non-Federal sources in an
22 amount that is greater than the amount equal
23 to 5 percent of the cost of carrying out the
24 community college student success program at
25 the institution for such year.

1 (B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this
2 paragraph:

3 (i) EXEMPT INSTITUTION.—The term
4 “exempt institution” means an eligible in-
5 stitution that is—

6 (I) a Tribal college or university;
7 or

8 (II) an institution located in the
9 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,
10 American Samoa, the United States
11 Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of
12 the Northern Mariana Islands, the
13 Republic of the Marshall Islands, the
14 Federated States of Micronesia, or the
15 Republic of Palau.

16 (ii) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVER-
17 SITY.—The term “Tribal college or univer-
18 sity” has the meaning given the term in
19 section 316 of the Higher Education Act
20 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c).

21 (e) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a
22 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
23 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
24 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall
25 include a copy of the report described in section 103(f).

1 (f) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institu-
2 tion that receives a grant under this section shall use the
3 grant funds to—

4 (1) implement a community college student suc-
5 cess program; and

6 (2) regularly review—

7 (A) data to monitor the academic progress
8 of eligible students participating in such pro-
9 gram; and

10 (B) the meeting and program participation
11 requirements described in section 101(1).

12 (g) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible insti-
13 tution that receives a grant under this section may use
14 the grant to—

15 (1) establish or expand a data tracking system
16 that includes early alerts to complete the regular re-
17 views required under subsection (f)(2);

18 (2) provide eligible students participating in the
19 community college student success program for
20 which the grant is awarded with financial assistance
21 to cover the costs described in paragraph (2), (3), or
22 (8) of section 472 of the Higher Education Act of
23 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll);

1 (3) establish or expand career development
2 services for such students, such as career workshops
3 or career counseling;

4 (4) establish or expand tutoring and academic
5 support services for such students;

6 (5) cover the costs of employment of adminis-
7 trators for the program whose sole job shall be to
8 administer the program, without regard to whether
9 the employment is full-time or less than full-time;
10 and

11 (6) provide financial support for eligible stu-
12 dents participating in such program to enroll in
13 courses offered during enrollment periods that are
14 outside the fall and spring semesters (or equivalent
15 terms).

16 (h) REPORTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Using the postsecondary
18 student data system established under section
19 132(1) or a successor system (whichever includes the
20 most recent data) to streamline reporting require-
21 ments and minimize reporting burdens, and in co-
22 ordination with the National Center for Education
23 Statistics, the Secretary shall, on at least an annual
24 basis, collect data with respect to each community

college student success program, including the data described in paragraph (2).

(2) DATA SUBMITTED BY ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—Each eligible institution that receives a grant under this title shall provide the following to the Secretary:

(A) On an annual basis, such information as may be necessary for the Secretary to collect data about—

(i) the demographic characteristics of the eligible students participating in the community college student success program;

(ii) the average number of credits attempted and average number of credits earned, rate of retention, rate of degree completion, and transfer rates of such eligible students; and

(iii) the graduation rate of such eligible students.

(B) An annual performance report for each year of the grant period that includes—

(i) an analysis of the implementation and progress of such program based on the ambitious outcome goals described in the

1 report submitted by the institution under
2 section 103(f)(1)(A), including challenges
3 to and changes made to such program;

4 (ii) if according to the analysis under
5 subparagraph (A), the program is not on
6 track to meet such ambitious outcome
7 goals, a description of the plans to adjust
8 the program to improve the performance of
9 the program;

10 (iii) the participation of such eligible
11 students in tutoring, academic support, ca-
12 reer services, and meetings with program
13 advisors; and

14 (iv) when data is available, informa-
15 tion that will allow for a comparison of the
16 data collected for such year under this sub-
17 paragraph with such data collected for
18 each of the 2 years preceding the date on
19 which the grant was awarded.

20 (C) Not later than 6 years after the date
21 on which the eligible institution received such
22 grant, a final report to the Secretary that in-
23 cludes an analysis of—

24 (i) the factors that contributed to the
25 success or failure of the community college

1 student success program in meeting the
 2 ambitious outcome goals described in the
 3 report submitted by the institution under
 4 section 103(f)(1)(A);

5 (ii) the challenges faced in attempting
 6 to implement such program;

7 (iii) information on how to improve
 8 such program;

9 (iv) whether the program has created
 10 an institution-wide reform with respect to
 11 graduate rates and transfer rates for all
 12 students, and if so, how such reform was
 13 created; and

14 (v) how the eligible institution will
 15 continue to fund such program after the
 16 end of the grant period.

17 **SEC. 105. EVALUATIONS.**

18 (a) INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS.—Before finalizing
 19 which eligible institutions will receive grants under section
 20 104 for a fiscal year, the Secretary, acting through the
 21 Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall enter
 22 into a contract with an independent evaluator—

23 (1) to consult with the Secretary on which eligi-
 24 ble institutions should receive the grants; and

(2) to use the What Works Clearinghouse Standards (without reservations) to evaluate, throughout the duration of the grant period of such grants—

(A) each community college student success program for which such grant is awarded, including whether the program met its ambitious outcome goals described in the report submitted by the institution under section 103(f)(1)(A);

(B) the average impact of community college student success programs on graduation rates, the average number of credits per associate degree awarded, and transfer rates for eligible students;

(C) the variation in program impacts across eligible institutions with respect to such rates; and

(D) whether such programs are cost effective in creating higher graduation rates and transfer rates of participating eligible students compared with such rates at eligible institutions without such programs.

1 (b) RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS.—The results of the
 2 evaluations under subsection (a) shall be made publicly
 3 available on the website of the Department of Education.

4 (c) FUNDING FOR EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary
 5 may reserve not more than 15 percent of the funds appro-
 6 priated under section 109 for a fiscal year to carry out
 7 this section for such fiscal year.

8 **SEC. 106. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

9 (a) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct out-
 10 reach activities to notify eligible institutions of the avail-
 11 ability of grants under this title.

12 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall
 13 provide technical assistance—

14 (1) to eligible institutions that may be inter-
 15 ested in applying for grants under this title, includ-
 16 ing assistance with applications for such grants; and

17 (2) to eligible institutions awarded grants under
 18 this title, including assistance with—

19 (A) establishing ambitious outcome goals
 20 described in section 103(f)(1)(A); and

21 (B) the implementation of a community
 22 college student success program.

23 (c) FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR
 24 EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary may reserve not more
 25 than 7 percent of the funds appropriated under section

1 109 for a fiscal year for technical assistance under this
2 section for such fiscal year.

3 **SEC. 107. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

4 Not later than 1 year after the date on which the
5 Secretary receives the final evaluation results under sec-
6 tion 105 for eligible institutions that were awarded grants
7 under section 104 for the same fiscal year, the Secretary
8 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

9 (1) the number of grants awarded under section
10 104 for such fiscal year, and the amount of such
11 grants;

12 (2) the number of grants awarded under section
13 103 to eligible institutions that received or would
14 have been eligible for the grants described in para-
15 graph (1), and the amount of such grants;

16 (3) the number of grants awarded under section
17 103 to eligible institutions that would have been eli-
18 gible, but did not receive the grants described in
19 paragraph (1);

20 (4) such final evaluation results; and

21 (5) any other information the Secretary may
22 determine is relevant.

23 **SEC. 108. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

24 Funds awarded to an eligible institution under this
25 title shall be used only to supplement the amount of funds

1 that would, in the absence of the Federal funds provided
 2 under this title, be made available from non-Federal
 3 sources or other Federal sources to carry out the activities
 4 under this title, and not to supplant such funds.

5 **SEC. 109. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
 7 this title \$10,000,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through
 8 2031, to be available until expended.

9 **TITLE II—PART TIME COMMU-**
 10 **NITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUC-**
 11 **CESS PROGRAM**

12 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

13 In this title:

14 (1) PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT
 15 SUCCESS PROGRAM.—The term “part time commu-
 16 nity college student success program” means a pro-
 17 gram carried out by an eligible institution under
 18 which the eligible institution carries out the fol-
 19 lowing:

20 (A) Provides students participating in such
 21 program with an amount that covers the cost of
 22 tuition and fees that are not covered by any
 23 Federal, State, or institutional financial assist-
 24 ance received by the student.

1 (B) Requires students participating in
2 such program to—

3 (i) be enrolled in not less than 12
4 credits at the eligible institution as a de-
5 gree-seeking student during each fall and
6 spring semester (or equivalent terms) dur-
7 ing which the student participates in such
8 program;

9 (ii) if the student is referred to reme-
10 dial or corequisite courses or on academic
11 probation, meet, not less than on a weekly
12 basis, with a tutor or appropriate academic
13 support, except that in the case of a stu-
14 dent who is academically struggling, but
15 who is not referred to remedial courses or
16 on academic probation, the student may
17 meet with a tutor as often as the program
18 advisor for such student requires;

19 (iii) meet with a program advisor—

20 (I) twice each month during the
21 first semester (or equivalent term) of
22 participation in such program; and

23 (II) as directed by the program
24 advisor in subsequent semesters (or

1 equivalent terms) under subparagraph

2 (C)(ii); and

3 (iv) meet with a career advisor or par-

4 ticipate in a career services event not less

5 than once each semester (or equivalent

6 term).

7 (C) Provides a program advisor to each

8 student participating in such program who—

9 (i) provides comprehensive academic,

10 career, and personal advising to the stu-

11 dent, such as—

12 (I) the creation and implementa-

13 tion of an academic plan for the stu-

14 dent to graduate from a program of

15 study at the eligible institution within

16 150 percent of the normal time for

17 graduation from such program;

18 (II) if an eligible student is re-

19 ferred to remedial or corequisite

20 courses, taking steps to enable the

21 student to complete college mathe-

22 matics and English within the first 30

23 credit hours; and

24 (III) assisting the student with

25 developing and achieving academic

- 1 goals, including creating strong trans-
- 2 fer pathways that demonstrate pro-
- 3 grammatic transfer for students inter-
- 4 ested in transferring to a 4-year insti-
- 5 tution of higher education;
- 6 (ii) after the student participating in
- 7 such program completes a semester (or
- 8 equivalent term), creates for the student a
- 9 needs-based advising schedule that indi-
- 10 cates, based on the student's academic per-
- 11 formance, the frequency with which such
- 12 student shall be required to meet with a
- 13 program advisor for each subsequent se-
- 14 mester (or equivalent term) of program
- 15 participation;
- 16 (iii) has a caseload of not more than
- 17 300 students;
- 18 (iv) tracks the attendance of the stu-
- 19 dent at the meetings described in clauses
- 20 (ii), (iii), and (iv) of subparagraph (B);
- 21 (v) monitors the academic progress of
- 22 the student; and
- 23 (vi) provides each student who meets
- 24 the requirements of subparagraph (B), on
- 25 not less than a monthly basis, with finan-

1 cial incentives, such as a transportation
2 pass, a gas card, or a grocery card.

3 (D) Provides tutoring, academic support,
4 and career services at no cost to students par-
5 ticipating in such program, and may reserve
6 places in select courses for such students in
7 order to create community within cohorts of
8 students.

9 (E) Provides information to eligible stu-
10 dents participating in such program about the
11 eligibility of such students for assistance under
12 the supplemental nutrition assistance program
13 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
14 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and the program of block
15 grants for States for temporary assistance for
16 needy families established under part A of title
17 IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et
18 seq.).

19 (2) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term “eligible
20 student” means a student enrolled at an eligible in-
21 stitution who—

22 (A) on the date such eligible student would
23 begin participation in a part time community
24 college student success program at such eligible
25 institution—

1 (i) is enrolled in a program of study
2 leading to an associate degree that pre-
3 pares students to transfer to a 4-year in-
4 stitution of higher education or advance in
5 the labor market; and

6 (ii) is—

7 (I) a first-time undergraduate
8 student; or

9 (II) a continuing or transfer stu-
10 dent with not more than 15 credits
11 and a minimum grade point average
12 of 2.0 (or its equivalent);

13 (B) completes not less than 24 credits, at
14 least 20 of which must be degree-applicable, at
15 the eligible institution as a degree-seeking stu-
16 dent during each academic year during which
17 the student participates in the part time com-
18 munity college student success program;

19 (C) if the student is eligible for financial
20 aid under title IV of the Higher Education Act
21 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), has com-
22 pleted the Free Application for Federal Student
23 Aid or other common financial reporting form
24 under section 483(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C.
25 1090(a)); and

1 (D) meets any other requirements estab-
 2 lished by the institution.

3 (3) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
 4 term “minority-serving institution” means an insti-
 5 tution described in section 371(a) of the Higher
 6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

7 **SEC. 202. PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUC-**
 8 **CESS GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

9 From the amounts appropriated under section 209,
 10 the Secretary of Education shall establish and carry out
 11 the part time community college student success grant
 12 program to award grants under sections 203 and 204, on
 13 a competitive basis, to eligible institutions to plan and im-
 14 plement part time community college student success pro-
 15 grams for eligible students that are designed to increase—

16 (1) the rate at which program participants
 17 graduate from a program of study at such eligible
 18 institution within 150 percent of the normal time for
 19 graduation;

20 (2) transfer rates of program participants; and

21 (3) the number of credits that a program par-
 22 ticipant takes that apply to a degree in the partici-
 23 pant’s desired major.

1 **SEC. 203. GRANTS TO PLAN PART TIME COMMUNITY COL-**
 2 **LEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **PLANNING GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—From the
 4 amounts appropriated to carry out this section under sec-
 5 tion 209 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award plan-
 6 ning grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,
 7 to eligible institutions to develop plans for part time com-
 8 munity college student success programs.

9 (b) **DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this section
 10 shall be for a 1-year period.

11 (c) **PEER REVIEW PROCESS; PRIORITY.**—In award-
 12 ing grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-
 13 retary shall—

14 (1) carry out a peer review process that—

15 (A) requires that each application sub-
 16 mitted under subsection (d) be peer reviewed by
 17 a panel of readers composed of individuals se-
 18 lected by the Secretary, which shall include—

19 (i) not less than 50 percent of read-
 20 ers—

21 (I) who are not employees of the
 22 Federal Government; and

23 (II) who have relevant research
 24 or practical experience with respect to
 25 student support programs designed to
 26 increase graduation rates and transfer

1 rates at public 2-year institutions of
2 higher education; and

3 (ii) to the maximum extent prac-
4 ticable, individuals who are members of
5 groups underrepresented in higher edu-
6 cation, including African Americans, His-
7 panics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives,
8 Asian Americans, and Native American
9 Pacific Islanders (including Native Hawai-
10 ians), and individuals with disabilities; and

11 (B) ensures that no individual assigned
12 under subparagraph (A) to review an applica-
13 tion has any conflict of interest with regard to
14 that application that may make the individual
15 unable to impartially conduct such review; and

16 (2) give priority to eligible institutions that are
17 eligible to receive funding under title III or V of the
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1051 et
19 seq.; 20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

20 (d) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a
21 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
22 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
23 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall
24 include—

1 (1) the graduation rate, the number of credits
2 completed (disaggregated by remedial credits and
3 college-level credits for each program of study), and
4 the transfer rate for the most recent academic year
5 for which data are available for eligible students and
6 all students, respectively;

7 (2) an analysis of how implementing a commu-
8 nity college student success program may improve
9 the graduation rate or transfer rate for eligible stu-
10 dents; and

11 (3) a description of the methods the eligible in-
12 stitution has previously used to improve the gradua-
13 tion rate or transfer rate with respect to eligible stu-
14 dents and all students, respectively.

15 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-
16 ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant to
17 develop a plan to implement a part time community college
18 student success program at the eligible institution for eli-
19 gible students.

20 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
21 on which an eligible institution receives a grant under this
22 section, such eligible institution shall submit to the Sec-
23 retary a report that includes—

1 (1) a plan for implementing a community col-
2 lege student success program at the eligible institu-
3 tion, including—

4 (A) the sufficiently ambitious outcome
5 goals for achieving significant improvements in
6 graduation rates and transfer rates for program
7 participants and all students, respectively, as
8 such rates are defined by the eligible institu-
9 tion, in consultation with the Secretary, before
10 the end of the grant period;

11 (B) the number of such eligible students
12 who will participate in such program, includ-
13 ing—

14 (i) how such eligible students will be
15 identified, referred, and selected, in cases
16 where the interest in the program is larger
17 than the budget for the program; and

18 (ii) a plan to ensure that economically
19 disadvantaged students receive priority;

20 (C) based on the most recent academic
21 year for which data are available, disaggregated
22 by eligible students and all students—

23 (i) graduation rates;

24 (ii) transfer rates; and

1 (iii) average number of credits earned,
 2 including remedial and college-level credits,
 3 by associate degree earners;

4 (D) an analysis of the financial needs of el-
 5 igible students based on the Free Application
 6 for Federal Student Aid;

7 (E) a description of how the eligible insti-
 8 tution will effectively staff a community college
 9 student success program; and

10 (F) a timeline for the implementation of
 11 such program;

12 (2) a budgetary analysis that includes—

13 (A) a description of how the eligible insti-
 14 tution will provide non-Federal funds for such
 15 program under section 204(d); and

16 (B) a description of how the eligible insti-
 17 tution will continue to fund such program after
 18 the end of the grant period for the grant
 19 awarded to the institution under section 204;
 20 and

21 (3) such other information as the Secretary
 22 may require.

23 **SEC. 204. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT PART TIME COMMUNITY**
 24 **COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

25 (a) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-
2 priated to carry out this section under section 209
3 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award grants
4 for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis, to eligi-
5 ble institutions awarded a grant under section 203
6 to implement part time community college student
7 success programs.

8 (2) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants under
9 this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall con-
10 sult with the independent evaluator described in sec-
11 tion 205(a) before finalizing which eligible institu-
12 tions will receive such a grant for such fiscal year.

13 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION.—To be eligible
14 to receive a grant under this section, an eligible institution
15 shall meet the following requirements:

16 (1) The eligible institution was awarded a grant
17 under section 203 not less than 1 year before such
18 eligible institution submits an application under sub-
19 section (e).

20 (2) The eligible institution submits an applica-
21 tion under subsection (e).

22 (3) The eligible institution demonstrates, on the
23 date of the application described in subsection (e),
24 the availability of non-Federal funding for the

1 matching funds required under subparagraphs (A),
2 (B), and (C) of subsection (d)(1).

3 (c) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this section
4 shall be for a 5-year period.

5 (d) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
7 graph (2), an eligible institution awarded a grant
8 under this section shall contribute in cash from non-
9 Federal sources the following:

10 (A) For the second year of the grant pe-
11 riod, an amount equal to 10 percent of the cost
12 of carrying out the part time community college
13 student success program for eligible students at
14 the institution for such year.

15 (B) For each of the third year through
16 fifth years of the grant period, an amount equal
17 to 20 percent of the cost of carrying out such
18 program for the applicable year.

19 (2) EXCEPTION.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding (1),
21 with respect to an exempt institution awarded
22 a grant under this section, for each year of the
23 grant period beginning with the second year
24 through the fifth year, the Secretary shall not
25 require the institution to make a cash contribu-

tion from non-Federal sources in an amount that is greater than the amount equal to 5 percent of the cost of carrying out the part time community college student success program at the institution for such year.

(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph:

(i) EXEMPT INSTITUTION.—The term “exempt institution” means an eligible institution that is—

(I) a Tribal College or University; or

(II) an institution located in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau.

(ii) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term “Tribal College or University” has the meaning given the term in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c).

1 (e) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a
2 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
3 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
4 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall
5 include a copy of the report described in section 203(f).

6 (f) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institu-
7 tion that receives a grant under this section shall use the
8 grant funds to—

9 (1) implement a part time community college
10 student success program; and

11 (2) regularly review—

12 (A) data to monitor the academic progress
13 of eligible students participating in such pro-
14 gram; and

15 (B) the meeting and program participation
16 requirements described in section 201(1).

17 (g) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible insti-
18 tution that receives a grant under this section may use
19 the grant to—

20 (1) establish or expand a data tracking system
21 that includes early alerts to complete the regular re-
22 views required under subsection (f)(2);

23 (2) provide eligible students participating in the
24 part time community college student success pro-
25 gram for which the grant is awarded with financial

1 assistance to cover the costs described in paragraph
 2 (2), (3), or (8) of section 472 of the Higher Edu-
 3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll);

4 (3) establish or expand career development
 5 services for such eligible students, such as career
 6 workshops or career counseling;

7 (4) establish or expand tutoring and academic
 8 support services for such eligible students;

9 (5) cover the costs of employment of adminis-
 10 trators for the program whose sole job shall be to
 11 administer the program, without regard to whether
 12 the employment is full-time or less than full-time;
 13 and

14 (6) provide financial support for such eligible
 15 students participating in such program to enroll in
 16 courses offered during enrollment periods that are
 17 outside the fall and spring semesters (or equivalent
 18 terms).

19 (h) REPORTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Using the postsecondary
 21 student data system established under section
 22 132(1) or a successor system (whichever includes the
 23 most recent data) to streamline reporting require-
 24 ments and minimize reporting burdens, and in co-
 25 ordination with the National Center for Education

1 Statistics, the Secretary shall, on at least an annual
2 basis, collect data with respect to each community
3 college student success program, including the data
4 described in paragraph (2).

5 (2) DATA SUBMITTED BY ELIGIBLE INSTITU-
6 TIONS.—Each eligible institution that receives a
7 grant under this title shall provide the following to
8 the Secretary:

9 (A) On an annual basis, such information
10 as may be necessary for the Secretary to collect
11 data about—

12 (i) the demographic characteristics of
13 the eligible students participating in the
14 part time community college student suc-
15 cess program;

16 (ii) the average number of credits at-
17 tempted and average number of credits
18 earned, rate of retention, rate of degree
19 completion, and transfer rates of such eli-
20 gible students; and

21 (iii) the graduation rate of such eligi-
22 ble students.

23 (B) An annual performance report for each
24 year of the grant period that includes—

1 (i) an analysis of the implementation
2 and progress of such program based on the
3 ambitious outcome goals described in the
4 report submitted by the institution under
5 section 203(f)(1)(A), including challenges
6 to and changes made to such program;

7 (ii) if according to the analysis under
8 subparagraph (A), the program is not on
9 track to meet such ambitious outcome
10 goals, a description of the plans to adjust
11 the program to improve the performance of
12 the program;

13 (iii) the participation of such eligible
14 students in tutoring, academic support, ca-
15 reer services, and meetings with program
16 advisors; and

17 (iv) when data is available, informa-
18 tion that will allow for a comparison of the
19 data collected for such year under this sub-
20 paragraph with such data collected for
21 each of the 2 years preceding the date on
22 which the grant was awarded.

23 (C) Not later than 6 years after the date
24 on which the eligible institution received such

1 grant, a final report to the Secretary that in-
2 cludes an analysis of—

3 (i) the factors that contributed to the
4 success or failure of the community college
5 student success program in meeting the
6 ambitious outcome goals described in the
7 report submitted by the institution under
8 section 203(f)(1)(A);

9 (ii) the challenges faced in attempting
10 to implement such program;

11 (iii) information on how to improve
12 such program;

13 (iv) whether the program has created
14 an institution-wide reform with respect to
15 graduate rates and transfer rates for all
16 students, and if so, how such reform was
17 created; and

18 (v) how the eligible institution will
19 continue to fund such program after the
20 end of the grant period.

21 **SEC. 205. EVALUATIONS.**

22 (a) INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS.—Before finalizing
23 which eligible institutions will receive grants under section
24 204 for a fiscal year, the Secretary, acting through the

1 Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall enter
2 into a contract with an independent evaluator—

3 (1) to consult with the Secretary on which eligi-
4 ble institutions should receive the grants; and

5 (2) to use the What Works Clearinghouse
6 Standards (without reservations) to evaluate,
7 throughout the duration of the grant period of such
8 grants—

9 (A) each part time community college stu-
10 dent success program for eligible students for
11 which such grant is awarded, including whether
12 the program met its ambitious outcome goals
13 described in the report submitted by the institu-
14 tion under section 203(f)(1)(A);

15 (B) the average impact of part time com-
16 munity college student success programs on
17 graduation rates, the average number of credits
18 per associate degree awarded, and transfer
19 rates for eligible students;

20 (C) the variation in program impacts
21 across eligible institutions with respect to such
22 rates; and

23 (D) whether such programs lead to higher
24 graduation rates and transfer rates of eligible
25 students per dollar spent for such students by

1 such institutions compared with such rates at
2 eligible institutions without such programs.

3 (b) RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS.—The results of the
4 evaluations under subsection (a) shall be made publicly
5 available on the website of the Department of Education.

6 (c) FUNDING FOR EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary
7 may reserve not more than 15 percent of the funds appro-
8 priated under section 209 for a fiscal year to carry out
9 this section for such fiscal year.

10 **SEC. 206. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

11 (a) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct out-
12 reach activities to notify eligible institutions of the avail-
13 ability of grants under this title.

14 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall
15 provide technical assistance—

16 (1) to eligible institutions that may be inter-
17 ested in applying for grants under this title, includ-
18 ing assistance with applications for such grants; and

19 (2) to eligible institutions awarded grants under
20 this title, including assistance with—

21 (A) establishing ambitious outcome goals
22 described in section 203(f)(1)(A); and

23 (B) the implementation of a part time
24 community college student success program.

1 (c) FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR
 2 EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary may reserve not more
 3 than 7 percent of the funds appropriated under section
 4 209 for a fiscal year for technical assistance under this
 5 section for such fiscal year.

6 **SEC. 207. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

7 Not later than 1 year after the date on which the
 8 Secretary receives the final evaluation results under sec-
 9 tion 205 for eligible institutions that were awarded grants
 10 under section 204 for the same fiscal year, the Secretary
 11 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

12 (1) the number of grants awarded under section
 13 204 for such fiscal year, and the amount of such
 14 grants;

15 (2) the number of grants awarded under section
 16 203 to eligible institutions that received or would
 17 have been eligible for the grants described in para-
 18 graph (1), and the amount of such grants;

19 (3) the number of grants awarded under section
 20 203 to eligible institutions that would have been eli-
 21 gible but did not receive the grants described in
 22 paragraph (1);

23 (4) such final evaluation results; and

24 (5) any other information the Secretary may
 25 determine is relevant.

1 **SEC. 208. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

2 Funds awarded to an eligible institution under this
3 title shall be used only to supplement the amount of funds
4 that would, in the absence of the Federal funds provided
5 under this title, be made available from non-Federal
6 sources or other Federal sources to carry out the activities
7 under this title, and not to supplant such funds.

8 **SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
10 this title \$5,000,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through
11 2031, to be available until expended.

○